

I must admit that in the interest of strongly affirming the public airways serving the diverse public interests, I am very concerned about Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This surely seems, at face, to be a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their financial and political interests and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.